Equal Rights

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FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY,
JANUARY 21, 1928

Wide World Photo.

Ruth Nichols

Who acted as pilot part way on the first non-stop flight from New York to Miami, Florida, in a Fairchild monoplane. Miss Nichols piloted the plane for more than five hours of the twelve-hour flight. She was accompanied by Major M. K. Lee of Washington, D. C., and Harry Rogers of the Colonial Airways. Miss Nichols is here seen just after she stepped out of the monoplane at Miami upon the completion of the flight.

JAN 20 1928 PERSONAL DIVISION

Feminist Notes

Success for Campaign Against Devadasi

THE Madras Legislative Council has unanimously adopted the resolution of Dr. Muthulakshmi Ammal, deputy president of the Legislative Council, providing for an amendment to the Religious Endowments Act probihiting the practice of dedicating girls to the temple.

Pastor Barred Because She Smokes

BECAUSE Maude Royden, eminent English pastor, smokes a cigarette when she wants it, the Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Chicago has cancelled the engagement it had made for an address during her tour of the United States.

Miss Royden, in writing to the American manager of her lecture tour, said, "I do not care a button whether or not I smoke while in America, but I certainly do not concede that it is a matter of religious importance."

Women Lose Ground in Philippines

SOFIA R. DE VEYRA, president of the National Federation of Women's Clubs of the Philippines, in a recent address before the Women's Club of Pangasinan, deplored the fact that women have been dropped from Government boards in the islands. There are now no women on the Board of Pardons, the Motion Picture Censors Board, or the Text-Book Board.

Mrs. Veyra made a ringing appeal for woman suffrage in the Philippine Islands, and said she expected the Congress of the United States to grant suffrage to the women of the islands if the Philippine Legislature fails to do so. She expressed the hope that the Legislature would grant the ballot to women, and thus avoid the expected rebuke from the United States.

She also urged that women demand the appointment of women to provincial school boards so that women teachers and students can be guaranteed Equal Rights.

Another Equal Franchise Demonstration

MORE than forty organizations of men and women of all shades of opinion are to take part in an Equal Franchise demonstration in London on March 8, 1928.

The British Feminist societies are now concentrating upon the "unknown quantities" in Parliament, and they are deputizing every member of Parliament whose opinions on Equal Franchise are not known in an effort to place everybody on record now, and to insure a majority when the promised Government bill for equal franchise comes up.

Latvian State Councillor

HELMA ZEMGAL, a peasant, 19 years old, is the first woman to obtain a seat in the Council of State of Latvia.

Prime Minister Will Speak

PRIME MINISTER BALDWIN has consented to speak at the British women's Equal Franchise demonstration on March 8, at Queen's Hall, London. The Premier has promised the Government's support of the Equal Franchise measure. It is reported that a thousand tickets for the March 8 demonstration have already been sold.

Woman Heads Bacteriologists

ALICE C. EVANS has been elected president of the Society of American Bacteriologists. Miss Evans is the first woman to hold the position in the twenty-nine years of the Society's existence. Miss Evans, associate bacteriologist of the United States Hygienic Laboratories, was vice-president of the society last year.

Acknowledged as the first person to discover that Malta fever in human beings is sometimes acquired from cattle, Miss Evans is now confined to the Marine Hospital at Norfolk, Virginia, with an attack of the fever, to which she has been subject for the last five years.

During her 10-year connection with the Public Health Service, Miss Evans has built a reputation as one of the foremost bacteriologists in the country, Dr. Hugh S. Cummings, director of the Public Health Service, said in describing her work as "magnificent."

Dr. George McCoy, director of the United States Hygienic Laboratories, under whom Miss Evans conducted her work, declared that her Malta fever discovery was a most important contribution to medical science, and that she had also done valuable experimental work in infantile paralysis and sleeping sickness.

Miss Evans, who is a native of Pennsylvania, received her college education at the Universities of Chicago and Wisconsin, and first entered the Government service as a bacteriologist in the dairy division of the Department of Agriculture.

Her present illness, which has lasted about one year, is of a slow course and it is not known when she will be able to resume her duties. For several years, Miss Evans has maintained an apartment at the Moulton, 1277 New Hampshire avenue northwest. She is a member, and for many years was secretary of the Washington Bacteriologist Society.

Prizes for French Lawyers

THE Chamber of Attorneys-at-Law practicing before the Civil Tribunal of the Seine announce that, in accordance with the liberal bequest of a former member, Leopold Goirand, two prizes will be awarded next October to the two law clerks, young men or young women, who shall receive the highest marks in certain law examinations.

Both prizes last year were awarded to girls, Mlle. Dupont and Mlle. Morel.

Ulster Rejects Equal Suffrage

THE Ulster Parliament has rejected, by a vote of 25 to 14, a bill to extend the vote to women of 21 years. The Irish Free State already has equal suffrage.

Women in the Church

ACCORDING to *Le Mouvement Feministe,* the question of admitting women to the ministry is more than ever to the fore in Switzerland. Until the Consistory of the Church of Geneva takes up the matter again, Marcelle Bard, a young bachelor of theology, who like her male fellow-students is authorized to preach, is delivering sermons in the Canton of Geneva, which attract and deeply stir large gatherings.

Punch and England's "Flappers"

PUNCH, the powerful humorous magazine of England, is waging a salutary campaign of ridicule against the application, by certain reactionary newspapers, of the term "flappers" to the women between 21 and 30 years old for whom Feminist organizations are seeking the franchise on equal terms with men.

A recent issue devotes its leading cartoon to the matter. A group of short-skirted young women, some in factory overalls and caps, others with shawls over their heads, others again with businesslike dispatch cases are sketched with a background of factories and warehouses and tall chimneys with the sign, "British Industries" printed above them. "Flapper," says *Punch,* "is the popular press catchword for an adult woman aged 21 to 30, when it is a question of giving her the vote under the same conditions as men of the same age." Perhaps the artist will produce another cartoon with women workers of maturer years, nurses, teachers, who though over the magic age of 30 are unenfranchised because they do not possess husbands or furniture.

Traffic in Women

(*Reprinted from Time and Tide, December* 16, 1927.)

GIVEN young and growing countries which, because money can be made quickly, attract a large cosmopolitan population — countries which, because their climatic or other conditions are unfavorable to settled family life, contain a large surplus of men over women; given other countries where women are in the majority, where their status is low and their earning power low too, where prostitution is regulated and licensed houses abound; given, in the case of both types of country, governments whose activity in the suppression of prostitution is hampered by the belief in its necessity; and finally given the existence of a degraded and criminal class of men willing to exploit these conditions in order to make money; given this combination of circumstances, you have all the factors which create the international traffic in women.

Part II of the League of Nations Report on the International Traffic in Women and Children, which has at last been released for publication, shows that there exist, not only in one part of the world, but in many parts, the conditions which create both demand and supply. This section of the report contains the evidence on which were based the conclusions and recommendations included in Part I, published in the spring. The investigation, which occupied two years, was carried out in some twenty-eight countries, including countries in Europe, North Africa, and the Continent of America. Information was gathered in two ways: firstly, by means of a questionnaire addressed to the States members of the League; and secondly, through trained investigators whose necessarily secret enquiries in each country covered periods varying from a week to six months. These investigators visited 112 cities. They associated with prostitutes and *souteneurs,* and visited licensed houses of prostitution, cabarets and music-halls. They were told how to obtain false passports and other documents, how to smuggle women in by sea, or across frontiers, and where to purchase indecent photographs and obscene literature. Their reports on the countries visited are contained in the report now issued. Though a warning is properly given that full credence must not be attached to statements made by members of the underworld, it is stated that most of the evidence so obtained has been confirmed from other sources. A perusal of the evidence makes clear both the reason for and the source of the opposition which had been raised against publicity. But publicity is essential if the evil is to be checked.

Part I of the report states that the investigation had revealed a continuous current of traffic between certain countries in Europe and certain other countries in South America. Other currents exist, but this appears to be the most serious. Part II of the report makes it plain that the countries most deeply concerned in the traffic are Austria, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Poland and Rumania, on the one hand, and, on the other, Argentine, Brazil, Mexico and Egypt. Conditions appear to be worst in France and Poland (countries of supply) and in the Argentine, Brazil and Mexico (countries of demand). "The Argentine is regarded as a sort of Golconda," says the report, "there is a constant flow to it of prostitutes from every corner of Europe." According to statistics issued by the Health Department of Buenos Aires, 75 per cent. of registered prostitutes are foreigners, and it is estimated that ,in 1924, the total of foreign prostitutes alone was, at the very lowest, 4,500. Thus the number of all prostitutes must have been well over 6,000 in a city whose total population numbered only 2,300,000. It is further estimated that there are today in Buenos Aires 3,000 prostitutes who have entered the country expressly for the purpose of prostitution. The number of French women registered in this city in 1923 represented 45 per cent. of the total of all foreign nationalities.

THE report on France itself reveals a serious state of affairs. The internal conditions in that country, as well as its geographical position, render it a favorable ground for international traffickers. There are, it is stated, 12,000 registered prostitutes in France; and it is estimated that clandestine prostitutes are six times as numerous. So that the total number of prostitutes in France is something like 90,000, of whom all but 3,000 are of French nationality. The French Government's statement in 1926 that "traffic in women in France is at the present time almost negligible" is not borne out by the enquiry. The existence of a heavy outgoing traffic from France is shown by official statistics in other countries, by evidence in France itself, and by the statements made by members of the underworld. Not only in Buenos Aires, but in Montevideo and Alexandria, French prostitutes exceed those of every other nationality, while in Havana 44 per cent. of all alien prostitutes are French. Moreover, it is estimated that at least 10 per cent. of migrating French prostitutes are under 21 years of age.

Included in the Memorandum on the comments of various governments which accompanies the report, is a reply from France, protesting against "the publication of confidential information which cannot be controlled," and complaining that the report on that country "conveys a general picture which does not in the least represent the truth." She does not, however, make any attempt to rebut the evidence, nor to suggest methods of investigation which would have been more satisfactory and reliable. It is significant, and a tribute to the investigators, that with the exception of France, no country has challenged the substantial accuracy of the report.

IT is not surprising that the Anglo-Saxon countries from which came both the impetus and the funds for the League enquiry should be just those countries which come best out of the investigation. This circumstance is due partly to racial causes, and partly to the public attitude toward prostitution in these countries. In Great Britain, Canada and the United States, countries in which prostitution is not regulated and where trafficking is severely punished, there is little evidence of organized traffic (in Great Britain there is said to be none). The Scandinavian countries also stand well; the result of a preliminary survey made in Norway, Sweden and Denmark did not appear to justify further study.

The necessity for international action in this matter was first recognized in 1904, when an international conference was summoned in Paris by the French Government. This latest enquiry still further emphasizes the necessity for common action, since the attempts at suppression by one country may be completely neutralized by the complacency of a neighboring country — the traffic being merely driven over the borders. One fact in the report stands out above all others, and that is the connection bewteen licensed houses and the existence of traffic in women. The whole system of regulation encourages the trafficker; and this fact is being recognized by an increasing number of nations. Czecho-Slovakia, Germany, Holland, Hungary and Poland, have all abolished their licensed houses, and there appears to be a growth of opinion against "regulation" in many countries which have not yet taken the step of abolishing it. International pressure will have to be directed towards the suppression of *maisons tolérées* in all countries; but progress is bound to be slow so long as certain deeply implicated countries, like the Argentine, Brazil, Egypt, Mexico and Turkey refuse adherence to the international convention of 1921, and other countries who are parties to the convention fail to carry out their obligations in connection with it.

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 11.]
House Joint Resolution Number 81.

Introduced in the Senate, December 8, 1925, by Senator Charles E. Curtis.
Introduced in the House of Representatives, December 16, 1925, by Representative D. R. Anthony.

False Prophets

THERE must be a good many people in the world today who, if they have good memories, feel, from time to time, a little foolish. We refer, of course, to our pristine antagonists who, not so long ago, predicted passionately that if the Federal Suffrage Amendment were added to the Constitution all sorts of dreadful judgments would descend upon mankind. The backbone of American civilization would be broken; marriage would disappear; women, that is married women, would have no children and such children as they had would be deserted; husbands would no longer enjoy three meals a day, and so on and so on. Little is said of these predictions nowadays for reasons which anyone can understand. A false prophet does not find it pleasant to be caught *in flagrante dilectu;* he prefers to turn his attention to the future rather than the past. Hence the great silence among the prophets as to the real results of woman suffrage and their ardent attention to the pending Equal Rights Amendment.

Dear! dear! the dreadful things that will happen if ever the Equal Rights Amendment goes through! Women will work (as they were going to vote) all around the clock; women will be unsexed (again); motherhood will no longer be protected (it is so beautifully protected now); and mothers' pensions—well, mothers' pensions will be completely put out of the picture when Equal Rights prevails. Silly, but said and believed, and by intelligent people too. We will here take up the cudgels on one point only—mothers' pensions. This, first, because reasonable people, not prophets, may perhaps sometimes be confused as to the relation of Equal Rights and mothers' pensions (so-called), and second, because we have an excellent new piece of literature which we hope you will order in quantities from Headquarters and which presents the facts in the case as follows:

Equal Rights and "Mothers'" Pensions.

THE National Woman's Party does not advocate any particular form of administering public aid to children, but points out that the basis of this type of legislation is not the mother, but the child. Such laws have in the past been called misleadingly "mothers' pensions," although the laws themselves recognize that the pension is not for the mother, but for the child. This is shown in various ways as in allotting so much for the first child and so much for additional children; and in that the pension is not always given to the mother, but to others who may have the custody of the child. In Colorado, for example, the pension is given to either parent, father or mother. The Colorado law provides, in part, as follows:

> "If the parent or parents of such dependent or neglected child are poor and unable to properly care for such child, but otherwise are proper guardians, and it is for the welfare of such child to remain at home, the court may enter an order finding such facts and fixing the amount of money necessary to enable the parent or parents to properly care for such child * * *" (Colorado Compiled Laws 1921, Sec. 608.)

The adoption of this broader basis will mean:

1. Aid to a greater number of children by removing the arbitrary discriminations between children who are fatherless and those who are motherless.

2. Placing the mother in a far more fair position in the mind of the public who today believe she is accepting a dole for herself, whereas it is not for herself, but for her children. Also it will put this aid less on the basis of charity and more on the basis of free kindergartens, day nurseries and meals in public schools where children are cared for not because of widowed mothers, but because they are in need.

3. Greater justice for all women. In trying to remove discriminations against women from the laws we are frequently told that we would remove also their privileges, and chief among these privileges is mothers' pensions. But this is not a question of privileges of mothers, but of health and happiness and well-being of the children.

The United States Children's Bureau, which was largely responsible for popularizing the term "mothers' pensions," is today calling it "public aid to children in their own homes."

There could be no model bill, no bill in keeping with the modern trend of thought and events which does not rest upon this broader basis of the child.

Equal Rights in the Western Hemisphere

EQUAL Rights between men and women throughout the twenty-two republics of the Western Hemisphere was proposed to the Pan-American Conference in Havana on January 16 by the National Woman's Party.

Jane Norman Smith of New York, chairman of the National Council, and Doris Stevens, chairman of the Woman's Party Committee on International Action, are in Havana attending the conference, and they proposed that the Pan-American Union adopt a treaty providing for the principle of equality between men and women, and present it to the twenty-two countries for ratification.

The National Council of the National Woman's Party at its meeting on January 13 decided to take this proposal to the Pan-American Conference, in view of the fact that the last conference decided to place upon the agenda of this conference the whole subject of the equalization of civil rights.

The delegates of Guatemala and Costa Rica introduced the Equal Rights proposal at the last conference, but they did not include the question of equal political rights. The South American countries have in recent years made many advances in granting equal civil rights of various kinds to their women, but little has been done to bring about equal suffrage and equal participation in government.

The resolutions adopted by the Pan-American Conference are especially influential in the Central and South American countries, Dr. Flora Diaz Parrado, Cuban lawyer, told the Woman's Party in urging American women to participate in the work of their sisters in the other twenty-one republics of the Americas.

The decisions of the Pan-American Conference may be compared to those of the League of Nations' International Labor Office in Europe. While the action on questions of women in industry taken by the International Labor Office are not binding upon any of the nations which are members of the League of Nations, it is tremendously influential in bringing about action by the governments of the various nations. The same is true, Dr. Parrado says, of the Pan-American Union in the Americas. The delegates go home feeling that they must bring their countries into line with the resolutions adopted by the conference.

It is such international associations of nations which has made necessary an international campaign for Equal Rights between men and women, for we have seen the effect of the actions of the League of Nations upon the citizenship of women and their position in industry.

"Since Equal Rights will come before the Havana Conference, as a result of the action of these two Latin American countries, it behooves the women of the United States to give all possible backing to the Guatemalan and Costo Rican proposal. This the Woman's Party is seeking to do by asking the conference to embody equality for men and women in treaty form and submit it to all the American republics for ratification. When this is done there will be no place within these twenty-two republics in which there will remain any vestige in the law of the discriminations against women which have so long obtained," said Florence Bayard Hilles in announcing the decision of the National Council.

Headquarters of the National Woman's Party have been established at the Hotel Sevilla-Biltmore in Havana. Besides Mrs. Smith and Miss Stevens, Muna Lee of the Porto Rico Branch of the Woman's Party and Alice M. Park of the California Branch are working there for Equal Rights between men and women throughout the New World.

American Investigation Committee on Conditions of Russian Women

MARY WINSOR of Philadelphia, Ella Rush Murray and Lucy Branham of New York, members of the American Investigation Committee on Russian Women, have recently returned from the U. S. S. R. This committee was organized on November 6th, last, by official delegates and visitors to the Ten-Year Celebration of the Soviet Government of Russia.

The following executive committee was elected: Chairman, Mary Winsor, associate editor of EQUAL RIGHTS; secretary, Ella Rush Murray, National Board, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, tenth regional director of New York State League of Women Voters, chairman Chinese Emergency Committee; other members, Rosa Laddon Hanna, writer and journalist; Lucy Gwynne Branham, secretary of the American Society for Cultural Relation with Russia (U. S. S. R.), and chairman of the Inez Milholland Committee; Harriet Silverman, educational secretary, Workers' Health Bureau; Ellen Dawson, secretary, Local 6019, United Textile Workers of America.

The members of the committee are experienced in investigation and entitled to call themselves experts in Feminist and labor questions. During their recent visit to Soviet Russia, excellent opportunities for independent research and investigation were placed at their disposal both with and without government cooperation.

The official report of the committee follows:

In Tzarist Russia the toilers possessed no political rights, and women no rights whatever, but there is now no inequality of the sexes. According to the Fundamental Law (constitution) adopted in 1918, "All the toilers, men and women alike, have the equal right to vote, and to be elected to the Soviets." Deprived of electoral rights are only the non-working elements.

Under the Tzarist rule the peasant woman had no title to the land, as the land allotments were given only to the male members of peasant families. The peasant women had no voting power at rural meetings, even if they happened to be independent cultivators.

According to Soviet Law, the women enjoy equal title to land with the men. At rural meetings and councils the peasants enjoy Equal Rights without any distinction of sex. As the representatives of the peasant form in all economic respects the head of the property is recognized, whether man or woman. In all cases of re-distribution of land, the men and women on the farm enjoy Equal Rights. These rights have now been extended also to the toiling women of the East, whose position was particularly hard and degrading. According to the Shariat (religious law) and the Adat (common law), upon which the social conditions were based in the East, the women "had no right to teach, to speak in public, to agitate, etc." The Moslem woman was obliged to put up with any chastisement inflicted on her by her husband, having no right even to speak to another man.

According to Tzarist legislation, the married woman was entirely placed under the tutelage of her husband and was deprived of the liberty of movement. If she left her husband, she was to be forcibly restored to him by the police. Children born out of wedlock were considered as illegitimate children, and had no rights in regard to their parents, not to speak of legal protection.

The Family and Matrimony Act of 1918, to use an expression by Lenin, "did not leave a single brick of the whole edifice" of the degrading position of women under Tzarist laws, and made the women equal in matrimonial and family relations, protecting the woman, and taking

special care of the interests of the children.

Matrimony and Family Law of 1926 embodies a number of clauses proposed by the masses of the toiling women. The age of matrimony has been raised. Common law marriage, in regard to property rights, etc., has been declared as valid as marriage registered in court, whilst provision has been made for voluntary registering of such marriage at any time, indicating the beginning of actual co-habitation.

There has been provision made for joint title to the property acquired in the course of co-habitation, and for an equal share of such property to husband and wife in the event of divorce.

The Matrimony Act of 1925 provides for the spouse who becomes an invalid the right of claiming support from the better-off spouse during the period of one year, and in the event of unemployment during a period of six months, whilst in this respect actual co-habitation is considered the same as registered marriage.

It was the specific care of the Soviet Power, from the very first days of its existence, to organize the protection of labor and to create for the proletariat the conditions which will ensure the workers, under the existing industrial conditions, the best opportunities for preserving their health and working ability, and for the increased productivity of labor. In regard to the working woman, it was the essential purpose to provide for her the facilities for combining industrial life with motherhood without detriment to the health and life of the mother and child.

Soviet legislation in regard to labor protection has not been equaled anywhere in the world. In the Soviet Union there can be no compulsory labor imposed on women under 18 and over 40 years of age. Entirely free from labor are: mothers in the course of eight weeks prior to and eight weeks after child birth, and women with children under eight years of age, if there is no one to look after them. It is forbidden to employ the labor of women in particularly hard and injurious work. Night work for pregnant and nursing women is absolutely forbidden. In the event of the discharge of workers, a pregnant woman must be the last to be discharged, and even then upon permission by the labor inspector in every case.

In addition to the annual vacations for all workers and employes, and sick leaves, pregnant working women obtain an extra vacation of eight weeks (or six weeks in the case of office workers) before and after childbirth, with full wages. Nursing mothers are allowed in the course of nine months an interval of half an hour after three and one-half hours of work, for the purpose of feeding the baby.

In the case of child-birth a subsidy is granted from the insurance funds in the shape of a birth benefit and a child-feeding benefit in the course of nine months afterwards. These benefits are extended also to the wives of workers and employes.

There has been an increased participation of the masses of working and peasant women in the election and in the work of the Soviets.

In 1927 there were 21,221 women in the Urban Soviets, constituting 19.5 per cent. Regardless of the increased qualifications demanded at present from candidates in the Soviet elections, the percentage of peasant women in the Soviets, and on responsible Soviet activity has increased. Upon the Rural Soviets the women constitute 11.3 per cent. (146,251 delegates).

Even more striking has been the growth of the participation of the Eastern working woman in the work of the Soviets. In 1926-7 there were 951,812 native Eastern women who took part in the elections to the rural Soviets, whilst 36,258 Western women, or 12.7 per cent. were elected to the rural Soviets. Among chairmen of rural Soviets in the native republics and regions there are 55 women.

The economic position of women in Russia is determined by their participation in the professions, in industry and in agriculture, of the 9,500,000 members of the trade unions in 1926, over 2,400,000 are women. However, they do not yet average the same pay as the men. To raise the qualification of women's labor, the Soviet authorities are giving women an opportunity for vocational and technical training. Women are participating in advanced positions, as foremen, as masters, leaders of gangs. They are serving on industrial commissions and conferences as assistants, vice-directors, and even directors of factories. All universities and technical schools are open on a co-educational basis, and scholarships are given to women as well as to men.

It is painful to patriotic Americans to recognize how far their country lags behind Soviet Russia in its treatment of women. Outside the field of suffrage, the American Constitution fails to establish the equality of women. In guardianship of children, in divorce laws, in control of earnings, of business, many States have antiquated laws, The illegitimate child is still the burden of its mother. Neither has our Government made any serious attempt to make it possible for the millions of self-supporting women in the United States to combine industrial or professional life with motherhood, as they have done in Russia. We attended the great Women's Congress which was held during our stay in Moscow, where representative women from all over the world reviewed the tremendous advance of the Russian women under the ten years of Soviet Government.

(Signed)
MARY WINSOR,
ELLA RUSH MURRAY,
LUCY GWYNNE BRANHAM.

For Equality for Married Teachers

THE Voteless League of Women Voters (the District of Columbia League) has taken a definite and complete stand for equality of opportunity for the married woman teacher.

Its committees on Education and Legal Status of Women unanimously adopted two resolutions reading: "There should be no discrimination against married women as teachers," and "There should be no discrimination against women who marry during their course in the Normal School." It adopted, by a vote of 4 to 2 a resolution reading: "We favor the admission of married women as students in the Normal Schools."

This last resolution affected only the negro normal school.

The following letter from Louise Ehrman Titus, member of the Educational Committee, who was unable to be present at the meeting, was read:

"Since I am unable to be present at your discussion on the two questions asked by the City Superintendent relative to married women teaching, I wish to take this means for expressing my opinion.

"1. I favor, heartily, married women teaching in the public schools if they are properly qualified.

"*Reasons:* (a) Marriage, like any other emotional experience, simply broadens and deepens one's sympathy and understanding; two assets valuable to any teacher.

"(b) A teacher, like a lawyer, a physician or a member of any other worthy profession, should be judged on her preparedness and her capacity for her work, together with her experience in the world of teaching. Her private life, if it be of a decent standard, has nothing to do with the case.

"Teaching positions should be judged as definite positions of importance to the community through the definite work they accomplish for the children, the best teacher available for the child; not a charity for someone needing work.

"(c) My experience in teaching in the high schools of Los Angeles where this question of married women teaching was settled in the affirmative in 1913, has given me ample concrete proof that marriage does not interfere with the best pos-

sible teaching. Although unmarried at the time, I saw numbers of women working with me who did marry and continue in their professions; and in every case the quality of their work improved.

"(d) A higher professional type among women teachers is bound to develop, if a young woman can enter the profession as a life work, (as men do) knowing that she is not going to be called upon to choose between her profession and marriage; but that she will be free to do her work and lead her own life as she sees fit.

"2. I *favor married women* entering normal schools to train for teaching. Why should any women be excluded from a thorough training for any worthy profession?"

Feminism in Germany

By Margaret Goldsmith

(*Reprinted from The Nation, January* 4, 1928.)

THE Feminist movements in Germany and the United States have little in common at their present stage of development. The two Feminist organizations in America may have entirely different platforms, they may believe in quite different tactics, and one may be more "radical" than the other, but it is none the less true that both these groups have the same primary interest: women, women's jobs, legislation affecting women as such.

Before the war this attitude held also in Germany among the various *Frauenvereine* and other women's organizations. In those days German women were united by their common fight for suffrage, for the position of women in public affairs. They looked forward to the day when, as members of the Reichstag, women would show a united front, when there would be a group of women in Parliament who would stand firmly together against their male colleagues in the championship of their rights as women.

Now eight years after the drafting of the Weimar Constitution, which says that "men and women have the same rights and responsibilities as citizens" in the republic, it seems evident that it was the common fight which held these women together and not their ideal of Feminism itself. "I never see my friends in the suffrage movement any more," an older woman official at the Labor Ministry complained to me. "I suppose what really united us before was the fight itself. And I miss this fight very much," she added. "It was the process of getting suffrage which I really enjoyed, and for some of us the goal was reached too suddenly after the war."

Class-consciousness and class-struggles, inevitable in any new republic, have been more vital to German women since the revolution than their consciousness of sex. The allegiance of the women in the Reichstag to their parties far outweighs their feeling of solidarity with other Feminists. One member, a woman who was one of the most ardent and active Feminists in Germany before the war, remarked to me recently that "after all politics are neither male nor female. I cast my vote in a way which I hope will serve society as a whole, and I try to be of help to women as much as I can, but they are not my prime consideration."

The party and class-feeling among women in the Reichstag has been so strong that some of the women members hardly know each other personally at all. As a matter of form, and because of their solidarity in the past, most of them nod at each other as they pass in the Reichstag lobby, but many of them have their pet antipathies among the other members of their sex. One prominent member said recently that of course she knew all of the other women—except Frau X, whom she has never even spoken to because "the politics of her party are really too disgusting."

All this is sometimes difficult for us to understand, for we still have certain ideals of sex solidarity. Once an American woman naively gave a luncheon for a number of "prominent" German women, most of them members of the Reichstag. The American hostess thought her guests would all be friendly, if not intimate. As it happened this luncheon took place at a time when the Nationalists and Socialists in the Reichstag were very much at loggerheads. Two of her guests, one a Socialist and one a Nationalist member, disagreed so heartily on every political issue, including questions concerning women, that they had ignored one another for weeks. Two of the others, not in the Reichstag, harbored such an old-time difference about illegitimacy and sex freedom for women that they had not spoken to each other for nearly twenty years. This is a serious article, so I cannot describe that luncheon, but I shall never forget it!

THERE is, of course, no club or association including all the women members of the Reichstag, and during the nine years since they have been in Parliament there have been relatively few bills which they have sponsored in unison. It is true that they have all voted in favor of certain laws concerning child welfare, such as the bill passed last year prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages to children under sixteen years of age. In contrast to the women of the United States, it is interesting to note that all of the women in the Reichstag are in favor of protective legislation affecting women in industry. This question has never even been discussed in the Reichstag, and except for two or three radical Feminists, such as Lyda Gustava Heymann and Anita Augspurg, whose attitude is quite exceptional, there are no longer any women in Germany who sponsor the relinquishment of protective legislation.

As a general rule bills before the Reichstag are voted on by the women according to their party or class-conviction. In 1926 legislation was brought before the House according to which unmarried mothers were to be dismissed from the government service. The bill was eventually passed by the Reichstag, but the preceding debates clearly showed the difference of opinion among the women members. Socialist women were generally opposed to this bill, while the Monarchists and Nationalists were shocked beyond speech at the very thought that the bill might not pass. A prominent woman member of the Democratic Party favored the bill on the ground that if unmarried mothers were *not* dismissed from the government service men might feel even fewer inhibitions, as they would be sure that the State, through the woman's salary, would be assuming his responsibility for her during her period of pregnancy.

One of the questions affecting women that is most widely discussed in Germany is the famous Paragraph 218 of the German legal code. According to this paragraph, abortions are illegal and punishable by long imprisonment for both the physician and the patient. Last year Paragraph 218 was again before the Reichstag, and the sponsors of its abolition were able to have the sentence mitigated to confinement in a prison instead of in a penitentiary. It was very interesting to study the different attitudes of the various women members toward this question. Catholic women, such as Frau Weber in the Center Party, were of course bitterly opposed to any change of Paragraph 218, but even among the Democratic and Socialist women there was no solidarity. As a whole the Socialist women were not opposed to any change in this paragraph on "moral" grounds, but they differed on the questions of health involved and as to whether effort, energy, and funds should not be spent first on the greater distribution of birth-control propaganda.

Many German women, especially those in the Reichstag, have been so busy emancipating their minds from pre-war ideas that they still look like *Hausfrauen* par excellence, but the fact that problems like Paragraph 218 are so frankly discussed shows what a tremendous change has occurred in the attitude of German women

generally since the war. Before the war there were only a few remarkable personalities, such as Dr. Helene Stoecker, who were courageous enough to face these issues and to discuss them openly as social problems.

ONE of the chief differences between German and American Feminists at the present time is their attitude toward home versus jobs. Among the older generation there are many Feminists in Germany who seem to believe that a woman must choose between a career and a home. In other words, they do not face the fundamental problem of how a job and a husband can be co-ordinated. I do not know why this is, but I have sometimes suspected that many German women, even Feminists, still harbor a profound awe for their *Herren der Schöpfung,* a sentiment which we Americans, perhaps, do not share, at least to the same extent.

Some of the older German Feminists are very much discouraged about the women of the younger generation. The older women, who spent much of their life energy in bringing about suffrage, are somewhat bitter over the "casual" manner in which the younger women take their privileges as a matter of course. Many of the older women feel that there will be a reaction as far as women's rights are concerned, just as there has been a general political reaction in Germany during the last few years. These older women fear that the younger generation is not preparing for this fight to come, but I do not quite agree with them, for I feel that the younger women are doing their share toward maintaining the privileges which women now hold in Germany. I believe that these younger women are training the men of their generation to a modern conception of a woman's place in society, and after all one of the chief functions of any Feminist movement is the education of males.

News from the Field

Colorado Broadcasts Series of Talks

THE Colorado Branch of the National Woman's Party has arranged for broadcasting over KFUM, Corley Mountain Highway, Colorado Springs, and Manitou, Tuesday evenings at 9 P. M., mountain time, a series of talks on Feminism and Equal Rights, under the general heading of "Blazing the Trail for Women."

Lillian H. Kerr, vice-chairman of the Colorado State Committee, will be the principal speaker.

KFUM operates on a wave length of 282.8 meters and a frequency of 1060 kilocycles.

Dayton's Lucretia Mott Luncheon

MRS. VALENTINE WINTERS entertained at luncheon at her home in Dayton, Ohio, on January 3, in honor of Lucretia Mott, who helped found the Equal Rights movement in 1848, and who gave her life to work for equality between men and women.

Heads of various women's organizations were guests at the luncheon, and talks on Lucretia Mott and the present work of the National Woman's Party were given.

Miss Pollitzer at Headquarters

ANITA POLLITZER of South Carolina, vice-chairman of the National Council of the National Woman's Party, was at National Headquarters during the week of January 8-14, and helped in the plans for presenting the proposal for Equal Rights between men and women throughout the Western Hemisphere to the Pan-American Conference.

Miss Pollitzer has just undertaken a new position as organizer of an American Committee for the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. This University hopes to form in Palestine a great graduate University, particularly for research work, and Miss Pollitzer is organizing a committee in the United States to help in the promotion of this plan. Dr. Einstein and Dr. Wassermann are among the distinguished men on the University's board.

Maud Younger, congressional chairman of the Woman's Party, entertained in honor of Miss Pollitzer at her home on January 10, and many of Miss Pollitzer's friends who have not seen her since she left for Europe more than a year ago to participate in the international Feminist movement were guests at the supper.

Mildred Morris, a Woman's Party worker in the suffrage campaign, was a guest at the dinner and was at National Headquarters for more than a week.

Dr. Ball Returns

DR. LOUISE BALL, chairman of the Dentists' Council of the New York City Committee of the National Woman's Party, is back from a five months' tour of Africa, during which she did research on the care of the teeth, and taught dental health to South African children. An account of Dr. Ball's work as an oral surgeon in the United States and also in Africa was published recently in EQUAL RIGHTS.

New York Groups Celebrate Anniversary

GROUPS of members of the National Woman's Party in Syracuse, Rochester, Albany, Dunkirk, and Buffalo, New York, celebrated the one hundred thirty-fifth anniversary of the birth of Lucretia Mott.

The Syracuse Branch devoted its regular January salon to memorial services in honor of Lucretia Mott. A dinner in honor of her was held by the Rochester group at the Woman's City Club on January 12.

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Two Million Dollar Fund

Treasurer's Report

EMMA WOLD, *Treasurer*
NETTIE TRAIL: *C. P. A., Auditor.*

RECEIPTS collected by National Headquarters December 7, 1912, to December 16, 1927, $1,426,293.11.

Contributions, membership and other receipts, December 16, 1927, to January 1, 1928:

Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, N. Y.	$150.00
Mrs. Helen T. Miller, Colo.	15.00
Mrs. Thomas Newbold, Colo.	5.00
Mrs. Susan H. B. Gray, Colo.	5.00
Mrs. H. O. Havemeyer, N. Y.	100.00
Mrs. J. E. Lambie, D. C.	25.00
Mrs. T. Duncan Just, Pa.	15.00
Mrs. Charles F. Snow, D. C.	20.00
Miss Annie Mahood, Pa.	2.00
Per Virginia Branch: (Virginia Branch retaining three-fourths)	
Dr. Helen L. Boissieux	.25
Miss Nora Layne	.25
Miss Elsie McGeorge	.25
Mrs. W. L. Francis	.25
Mrs. P. Burbank	.25
Mrs. H. Urquhart	.25
Miss Nell Mercer	.25
Per South Carolina Branch: (S. C. Branch retaining one-half)	
Miss Psyche Webster	.50
Mrs. J. Bateman	.50
Mrs. Hugh Walker	.50
Miss C. Templeton	.50
Miss C. Stevenson	.50
Miss Louise Bayard, Del.	5.00
Mrs. Hazel B. Ewing, Ill.	25.00
Miss Grace Henshaw, Mass.	20.00
Mrs. Frank Foster, Pa.	10.00
Mrs. Dwight Clark, D. C.	25.00
Mrs. Pope Yeatman, Pa.	25.00
Miss Doris Stevens, N. Y.	25.00
Mrs. Genevieve M. Fuller, Mass.	10.00
Miss Margaret Whittemore, Mich.	10.00
Mrs. D. B. Sterrett, La.	4.00
Per New York City Committee: (New York City Committee retaining dues in excess of 25 cents)	
Mrs. Anna Benz	.25
Miss Elizabeth Cardwell	.25
Miss Anne Crowley	.25
Miss Edith C. Heinrich	.25
Miss Frances M. Jacobs	.25
Mrs. Nellie Lundberg	.25
Mrs. G. Peterson	.25
Miss Genevieve Regan	.25
Miss Mary Sadler	.25
Miss Theodora Winton	.25
Miss Franceska Berg	.25
Mrs. A. T. Tuthill	.25
Mrs. Dexter Otey, Va.	10.00
Miss Sally Swing, England	10.00
Dr. Mary O'Malley, D. C.	5.00
Mrs. Ruby Lee Minar, D. C.	25.00
Mrs. Robert Treat Whitehouse, Maine	15.00
Mrs. Lawrence Lewis, Pa.	200.00
Miss Lavinia Dock, Pa.	5.00
Mrs. Gertrude James Robey, Va.	100.00
Sale of literature	2.00
Sale of membership cards	2.50
Refunds	6.20
Interest on bank balance	8.03
Rent of rooms at Headquarters	407.50
Total receipts, December 16, 1927, to January 1, 1928	$1,299.48
Per Equal Rights Committee: Mary Winsor, Pa.	100.00
	$1,399.48
Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to January 1, 1928	$1,427,692.59